



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|

09/518,709 03/03/00 YAMAHA

T P/2171-180

OSTROLENK FABER GERB & SOFFEN LLP
1180 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS
NEW YORK NY 10036-8403

MMC2/1107

EXAMINER

ORTIZ,E

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2815

DATE MAILED:

11/07/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/518,709

Applicant(s)
Yamaha

Examiner
Edgardo Ortiz

Art Unit
2815



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Oct 19, 2001
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 14-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 14-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on Mar 3, 2000 is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
- ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 17) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). 3 & 4
- 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 20) ☐ Other:

Art Unit: 2815

DETAILED ACTION

This Office Action is in response to an election filed October 19, 2001 on which Applicant elected Group II (Claims 14-21) to be prosecuted.

Drawings

1. Figures 6 and 7 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 14-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Takahisa et.al. (Japanese Patent No. 08-222633) in view of Jeng (Japanese Patent No. 10-074755). With regard to Claim 14, Takahisa teaches a semiconductor substrate (10), a MOS type transistor formed on said semiconductor substrate, including a source (S), a gate (G) and a drain (D), an interlayer insulating film (14) formed on the semiconductor substrate, covering the MOS transistor, a wiring layer (19) formed on said interlayer insulating film and a hydrogen transmission preventing film (28) covering said MOS type transistor and said wiring layer.

Art Unit: 2815

However, Takahisa fails to teach that the interlayer insulating film includes a hydrogen resident film. Jeng teaches a semiconductor device including an interlayer insulating film (18) including a hydrogen resident film. Therefore, it would have been an obvious modification to someone with ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to modify the structure as taught by Takahisa to include an interlayer insulating film having a hydrogen resident film, in order to increase crack suppression of the device layers and the resistance force to high temperature processes.

With regard to Claim 15, a further difference between Takahisa and the claimed invention is a hydrogen resident film containing hydrogen silsesquioxane resin. Jeng teaches a semiconductor device including an interlayer insulating film (18) including a hydrogen resident film and containing hydrogen silsesquioxane resin (HSQ). Therefore, it would have been an obvious modification to someone with ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to modify the structure as taught by Takahisa to include a hydrogen resident film containing hydrogen silsesquioxane resin, in order to provide a low-k insulator and to increase crack suppression of the device layers and the resistance force to high temperature processes.

With regard to Claim 16, Takahisa teaches a hydrogen transmission preventing film (28) including a silicon nitride film.

Art Unit: 2815

With regard to Claim 17, Takahisa teaches a wiring layer (19) having a lamination structure of Ti/Al alloy/TiN.

With regard to Claim 18, Takahisa teaches a wiring layer (19) having a lamination structure of Ti/Al-Si-Cu/TiN.

With regard to Claim 19, Takahisa teaches a wiring layer (19) including a plurality of wiring layers (16, 17) and a hydrogen transmission preventing layer (28) formed as thick as can to form a groove between adjacent wiring layers.

With regard to Claim 20, Takahisa teaches a silicide film (15) formed on the source (S), gate (G) and the drain (D).

With regard to Claim 21, Takahisa teaches a hydrogen supply path for supplying the channel region of the MOS type transistor formed between the channel region and the insulating film (14).

Conclusion


3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Edgardo Ortiz (Art Unit 2815), whose telephone number is (703) 308-6183. In case the Examiner can not be reached by a direct telephone call, you might call

Art Unit: 2815

Supervisor Eddie Lee at (703) 308-1690. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group 2800 receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

EO / AU 2815

10/31/01



EDDIE LEE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800